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REASONS humbly offered to the Honourable House of Commons, by the Clothiers of Eſſex, *viz.* Colcheſter, Coxhall, Bocking, Braintree, Witham, *and the Towns adjacent, againſt the intended Additional Duty to be laid upon* Wines.

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1. AS our Bays, Says, Perpetuanos, *&c.* go Nine Tenths of them to *Portugal* and *Spain*, if a new Impoſition be laid upon Wines, the King of *Portugal* (we cannot but reaſonably expect) then will prohibit our Manufacture, having had an inſtance of the like; which will prove fatal to us as the ſtagnation of the Blood.

2. It will totally deſtroy the Woollen Manufactury of *Eſſex*, for 50 or 60000 Families, as Spinſters, Weavers, and Combers, who are employed therein; and have no other Employments whereby to get a livelyhood, will be inevitably all Ruined, by reaſon thoſe Tradeſmen who employ the Poor, will be forced to lay by their Trades.

3. When theſe Families have no Employment, the Lands of the County cannot maintain the Poor; and what the Poor will do for maintenance, we humbly Pray the Wiſdom of this Houſe to take into their Conſideration.

4. We humbly Pray, That if the Wiſdom of this Houſe will lay a new Impoſition upon Wines; That thoſe Farmers may be obliged upon the Penalty of 100000 *l.* or give ſuch Security as this Honourable Houſe ſhall think fit, to buy thoſe Goods that are now upon Tradeſmens hands, at ſuch Rates as the Merchants at this time will give, and oblige themſelves to buy the ſame quantities of our Manufacture for Four Years enſuing, as has been ſold for Four Years laſt paſt, to prevent the Ruine of ſo many Thouſand Families.

5. We believe by the Importation of *Spaniſh* and *Portugal* Wines, *&c.* ſince the Prohibition of *French* Wines, *&c.* the Exportation of all our Manufacturies have been near one Third part increaſed; which hath the better enabled us chearfully to bear our proportion of Taxes, *&c.* in the carrying on the preſent War hitherto, which we can give no other Reaſon for, but from the Benefit the Native Subjects of *Spain* and *Portugal* reap, by our Merchants bringing Returns, in the Fruits of thoſe Countries, which formerly came from *France*; and were not the Product of our Manufacturies, but of our Monies.

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